

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for generating a rule-based file, comprising:
  - obtaining a rule document;
  - generating a table file from the rule document;
  - obtaining a parameterized rule file; and
  - mapping values associated with rules in the table file to matching rules in the parameterized rule file.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the parameterized rule file is selected from a design rule document, a layout versus schematic document, an extraction technology document, and a technology file.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the rule document is a first design rule document, and wherein the parameterized rule file is a parameterized design rule check file.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of generating a table file comprises:
  - converting the first design rule document into a text file;
  - checking for a rule indicator in the text file; and
  - replacing information adjacent to the rule indicator with a design rule value for a design rule found with the rule indicator.
5. (Original) The method of Claim 4 wherein the step of mapping comprises:
  - comparing the parameterized design rule check file with design rules from the table file; and
  - replacing the design rules found in the parameterized design rule check file with respective design rule values from the table file, the design rule values associated with the design rules.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein the step of replacing information

comprises selecting the information from a first type of information.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 6 further comprising:
  - storing the design rule check file;
  - checking for a second type of information; and
  - repeating the step of mapping using the second type of information to provide another design rule check file.
8. (Original) The method of Claim 6 further comprising:
  - checking for a second design rule document;
  - repeating the step of generating using the second design rule document to provide another design rule check file.
9. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein the second design rule document is for scaling to accommodate lithography.
10. (Original) A signal-bearing medium containing a program which, when executed by a processor causes execution of a method comprising:
  - obtaining a first rule document;
  - generating a table file from the first rule document;
  - obtaining a parameterized rule file; and
  - mapping values associated with rules in the table file to matching rules in the parameterized rule file to provide a first rule file.
11. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein the step of generating a table file comprises:
  - converting the first rule document into a text file;
  - checking for a rule indicator in the text file; and
  - replacing information adjacent to the rule indicator with a rule value.
12. (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the step of mapping comprises:

comparing the parameterized rule file with rules from the table file; and  
replacing the rules found in the parameterized rule file with respective rule values from the table file, the rule values associated with the rules.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein the step of replacing information comprises selecting the information from a first type of information.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13 further comprising:  
storing the first rule file;  
checking for a second type of information; and  
repeating the step of mapping using the second type of information to provide a second rule file.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 14 wherein the first rule document is a spreadsheet.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein the first type of information and the second type of information correspond to different columns of the rule values in the spreadsheet.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 13 further comprising:  
checking for a second rule document;  
repeating the step of generating using the second rule document to provide a second rule file.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17 wherein the first rule document is a first design rule document for a first minimum dimension lithography.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18 wherein the second rule document is a second design rule document for a second minimum dimension lithography different from the first minimum dimension lithography.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 19 wherein the first minimum dimension lithography is for an embedded core, and the second minimum dimension lithography is for a host integrated circuit device comprising the embedded core.

Claims 21-24. Cancelled.

25. (New) Apparatus for generating a rule-based file, comprising:

- means for obtaining a rule document;

- means for generating a table file from the rule document;

- means for obtaining a parameterized rule file; and

- means for mapping values associated with rules in the table file to matching rules in the parameterized rule file.

26. (New) The apparatus of Claim 25 wherein the rule document is a first design rule document and the parameterized rule file is a parameterized design rule check file, and wherein the means for generating a table file comprises:

- means for converting the first design rule document into a text file;

- means for checking for a rule indicator in the text file; and

- means for replacing information adjacent to the rule indicator with a design rule value for a design rule found with the rule indicator.

27. (New) The apparatus of Claim 26 wherein the means for mapping comprises:

- means for comparing the parameterized design rule check file with design rules from the table file; and

- means for replacing the design rules found in the parameterized design rule check file with respective design rule values from the table file, the design rule values associated with the design rules.

28. (New) The apparatus of Claim 27 wherein the means for replacing information comprises selecting the information from a first type of information, and wherein the apparatus further comprises:

means for storing the design rule check file;  
means for checking for a second type of information; and  
means for repeating the step of mapping using the second type of information  
to provide another design rule check file.